

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 03333 110041Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /069 W
-----110123Z 126869 /15

P R 102212Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1846

INFO PANCANAL

USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 3333

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS - LOCAL COVERAGE OF FIRST MAY SESSION

1. COVERAGE OF MONDAY'S FIRST SESSION IN MAY NEGOTIATING ROUND BY PANAMANIAN MEDIA WAS MODERATE, REFLECTING BUT NOT AMPLIFYING RESTRAINED OPTIMISM OF PANAMANIAN CHIEF NEGOTIATOR ESCOBAR'S STATEMENTS FROM WASHINGTON.

2. TELEVISION CHANNEL 4 CARRIED A REPORT AND RECORDED INTERVIEW WITH ESCOBAR ON MAY 9 WHICH SAID THE MEETING HAD LEFT A "POSTIVE IMPRESSION". "...THE UNITED STATES DOES HAVE THE CONCERN AND THE DESIRE TO SEE IF WE CAN REACH AN AGREEMENT," ESCOBAR SAID. (FBIS/PANAMA PA 091829Y)

3. COVERAGE IN MAY 10 PAPERS WAS MODERATE, BASED ENTIRELY ON WIRE SERVICE REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON AND A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY GOP NATIONAL INFORMATION COMMISSION DRAWN FROM A TELEPHONIC REPORT FROM ESCOBAR (FULL TEXT FBIS/PANAMA PA 100423Y). "CRITICA" CARRIED THE COMMUNIQUE UNDER A FRONT-PAGE NON-LEAD HEADLINE "NEGOTIATIONS RESUME ON UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 PANAMA 03333 110041Z

THE RIGHT FOOT". "MATUTINO" CARRIED BOTH THE COMMUNIQUE AND AN EFE (MIGUEL LARRAYA) STORY FROM WASHINGTON UNDER OFF-LEAD HEADLINES "U.S. PRESENTS NEW PROPOSAL IN THE NEGOTIATIONS: ROMULO ESCOBAR CALLS IT SUBSTANTIAL: INFORMATION SAYS CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT". THERE HAS BEEN NO PARTICULAR COMMENT AS YET.

4. PAPERS DEVOTE FAR MORE SPACE, AND A HOST OF MARTIAL PICTURES IN GOP-GUIDED PRESS, TO COVERAGE OF NATIONAL GUARD'S OPERATION "OH WHAT FEAR" WHICH BEGAN MAY 9. MAY 9 "CRITICA" FOUND "A GREAT DEALL OF UNEASINESS" AMONG CANAL ZONE WORKERS, WHICH IT ATRIBUTED TO AFTERMATH OF MCAULIFFE AP STORY (FBIS/PANAMA PA 092017Y). "CRITICA" DEVOTED ITS MAY 10 EDITORIAL TO THIS MOOD OF UNEASE IN THE ZONE--APPARENTLY UNABLE TO MAKE UP ITS EDITORIAL MIND WHETHER TO REGRET OR CROW OVER THIS PHENOMENON.

5. COMMENT: SO FAR, THERE IS NO PARTICULAR "LINE" TAKING SHAPE IN MEDIA COVERAGE. IT APPEARS THAT THE LOCAL MEDIA WILL AWAIT FURTHER GUIDANCE BEFORE THEY DECIDE WHETHER TO POINT WITH PRIDE OR VIEW WITH ALARM ABOUT THE START OF THE MAY ROUND.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770165-0007
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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